

France May Halt Proposed Johnson-Moran Encounter

Johnson Is Said to Have Been Threatened With Deportation as Undesirable Alien if Preparations to Stage Fight Are Carried Forward; Welsh Looks to Be Entitled to Meet Ritchie.

By Tom Thore.

THEIR is a strong probability that the much heralded encounter between Jack Johnson and Frank Moran for the world's heavyweight championship June 27 in Paris may not take place as scheduled, at least, if the latest report emanating from the French capital is correct. The report is that the French authorities are much opposed to the meeting of these two fighters. Therefore, in order to block the proposed bout they have circulated rumor to the effect that if the promoters persist in advertising the proposed battle they will take steps to deport the negro champion from France on the ground that he is an undesirable alien. To many this threat by the authorities means that the proposed match will either be postponed or abandoned for good.

No Credence Is Heard. This activity on the part of the Frenchmen to block the meeting of these two heavyweights is not causing any great amount of criticism by the sport following in this country. The consensus of opinion among promoters and fighters alike on this side of the water is that the proposed conflict between Johnson and Moran will not help to elevate the game in this country or abroad. In fact many view with suspicion the stories emanating from the camps of both fighters respecting the proposed match.

The fact that Moran, after signing articles for the bout, immediately left for these shores and before he had set foot on land, engaged a well informed press agent who has since billed him for an extensive theatrical tour with his statement that his fight with Johnson, who is going to result in the retirement of the colored demon from the ring, will not influence them in arranging for this championship affair.

COMPANY 1 TEAM DEFEATS ALL STARS

The baseball team of company 1, trotted the all star regimental team around the Fort Bliss diamond to the tune of 10 to 1, Sunday afternoon. The only run made by the All Star aggregation came in the first inning. The first man up batted out the first ball pitched for a home run. The rest of the All Stars seemed unable to connect with the curves of Harbison, the L pitcher, and traveled the outfield in vain.

With the exception of the third inning the game was real baseball from start to finish with all the accompanying thrills. In that inning the L team piled up seven runs. The first batter, a member of Company 1, slugged a home run off Elliott, the White Sox pitcher. The rest of the team were made off of Elliott. The batteries were: Company 1, Harbison and Lewis. The game teams are scheduled to play another game next Sunday. Each has won one game so far.

"Billy" Evans's Puzzling Problems of the Diamond

By Billy Evans
Famous American League Umpire.

IT is the unnatural play in baseball that creates the most confusion. By unnatural play I mean some peculiar decision made necessary by a "bone-head" play on the part of some athlete. Such a play came up in one of the smaller minor leagues last summer simply because one the base runner took something for granted instead of playing out the string and awaiting the decision of the umpire.

In the last half of the seventh, with the home team two runs behind, it managed to fill the bases with two men down. The batter, a left hander, was known as a left field hitter, and the moment he stepped into the batter's box the entire outfield shifted, moving in close to the infield and toward the left field foul line. The batter responded with a short fly to left field, which the left fielder just managed to reach after a hard run. At the crack of the bat all runners started to advance. Just as the fielder made the catch, the runner from second reached third base, the runner on first having advanced to second and the batter to first, and the man on third had reached the plate. The runner who had advanced from second to third was in an excellent position to see the play, and he evidently believed that the left fielder had made the catch, for he started in the direction of second base, that being his position on the opposing team. The fielder believed he had made a proper catch, for he merely lobbed the ball to the shortstop and started for the bench.

When the runner who had advanced to third was almost back to second, he was made to understand that the umpire had ruled that the ball had been trapped, not legally caught. Instantly, he started back to third. The shortstop, who had taken the throw from the outfield, tossed the ball to the third baseman, who touched out the runner a foot or two before he reached third base. The team in the field contended that the run did not count, because the play at third resolved itself into a force third out, which retired the side. How do you suppose the umpire ruled? (Copyright, 1914, by the Wheeler Syndicate, Inc.)

Answer to Saturday's Problem.

IN the first question asked, the batter is out immediately on the third strike, whether or not with one or no one out. Section 6 of rule 51 applies here. The runner is safe at second. There is no force, and he must be touched with the ball even though it arrived at the base in advance of him.

In the second question it is necessary to touch the man at second to retire him. Just as soon as the first baseman touched first with the ball, retiring the batter, he eliminated the force. The runner need not go to second; he could have gone back to first if he could have reached that bag in safety.

In the third question, the runner on third scores. When a balk is made, all runners advance whether forced or not.

In regard to the question as to why the infield fly rule does not apply with the runner on first with one or none out, I will try to explain briefly. The rule was made to prevent double plays by purposely dropping fly balls. On pop flies to the infield, base runners always hold their bases. With only first base occupied, there is never a chance to make a double play if the batter runs out his hit. With more than one base occupied, it is always possible to make a double play, whether the batter runs out his hit or not.—B. E.

Eddie Coulon Gives Promise of Being Factor in the Bantamweight Division

Proves to Be Somewhat Like Namesake, Johnny Coulon, and Is Advancing Rapidly, According to Reports From New Orleans; Joe Borrell Is Making Clever Showing in Trans-Atlantic Fights.

By T. S. Andrews

MILWAUKEE, Wis., March 29.—"What's in a name?" This expression is frequently heard, and in this case there seems to be considerable truth in it. Eddie Coulon is the name of a New Orleans boy who promises to become quite a factor in the bantamweight division. He has the same name as the bantamweight champion, Johnny Coulon, of Chicago, and if he proves to be anything like his namesake, he is able to be wearing the bantamweight crown before a great while.

Eddie Coulon has come to the front within the past six months in New Orleans. In the Crescent City they think he is one of the greatest bantamweights ever developed in the south. Already they have visions of a battle between Eddie and either Johnny or Kid Williams for the championship. Eddie was going along very nicely, but when he was matched with Dick Leadman, who was a much better fighter, he was hard, consistent training along with many grueling ring battles, to give him the necessary experience and polish that he would require if he wished to make an honest effort to wrest the title from the big smoke.

Walsh Ready for Ritchie. Freddy Walsh's win over Mexican Joe Ritchie at Vernon, Calif., gives the English lightweight champion a clean claim for a championship battle with title holder Willie Ritchie.

This battle with Ritchie afforded a good lesson on how Welsh compares with Ritchie. Ritchie won over Walsh in true championship style by stopping the Mexican cyclone in 10 rounds, while Welsh outlasted him in every round but two, containing himself with the popular decision.

Between these two boys would no doubt furnish some interesting fighting. It is to be hoped that some sort of agreement will be reached between them, so that they can meet at an early date and that Ritchie's proposed bout with Jimmy Duffy for the 10 round title, while Welsh outlasts him in every round but two, containing himself with the popular decision.

With plenty of funds assured for organizing and maintaining the team through the season, Capt. Freddie Owen has begun in earnest the organization of the team. Individual subscriptions to the baseball fund have been promised by many of the local fans, and the actor club has contributed to the fund.

Improvements at the Silver City Copper Mine are going ahead rapidly, and the work will be ready for the opening of the season.

White Sox-El Paso Game Is Canceled

Secretary Art Woods Calls Off Contest for April 1, 1914, Between the White Sox and El Paso.

No Park Available. Secretary Art Woods of the El Paso team, called the scheduled game for April 1, 1914, between the White Sox and El Paso. No grounds were available for the game, and the game was canceled.

The Copper League is still without a home here, though it is expected that a park site will be secured immediately. However, Mr. Woods did not wish to take any chances on getting the team here and then having no grounds, so as far as the El Paso team is concerned the game will not be played.

When asked regarding the prospects of a game between Company 1's team and a City League aggregation, Paul L. Atkinson said: "If the White Sox do not ask too much of a guarantee they will certainly get a game here. We will pick some good team. We the do the best infantry team, or make up an all-star aggregation."

GIANTS DEFEAT HUNTON TEAM BY SCORE OF 9 TO 5

Houston, Tex., March 29.—The New York Nationals, defeated the Houston "Tex" leaguers Sunday. Score: N. Y. 9, Houston 5.

Batteries: New York, Harbison and Lewis; Houston, McLean, Houston, McLean, and R. Allen.

Paso Del Norte Tonic Business Men's Lunch

In grill, at 11:30 a. m. to 2 p. m.—30c. (Advertisement.)

JERRY AT THE CIRCUS

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ATSA STUFF

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